



Natural Resources Conservation Service
375 Jackson Street, Suite 600
St. Paul, MN 55101-1854

*Helping People
Help the Land*

Phone: (651) 602-7900
FAX: (651) 602-7914

Transmitted via email

March 16, 2006

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 230-6-10

SUBJECT: EOP-FY 2005 MN NRCS CIVIL RIGHTS AWARDS WINNERS

Purpose. To announce the winners of the MN NRCS Civil Rights Awards FY 2005

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006.

Individual MN NRCS Civil Rights Awards FY 2005

Shannon Bengtson, District Conservationist, and Mark Kulig, District Conservationist, are each awarded a MN NRCS Civil Rights Individual Award for FY 2005.

Shannon Bengtson conceived, planned, organized and conducted a highly successful MN Intertribal Conservation Workshop. She organized a planning committee of NRCS and tribal leaders from the Mille Lacs Band. The workshop, held October 2005, included seven Band of Ojibwa, Upper and Lower Sioux Communities and over 30 NRCS employees in attendance.

Mark Kulig has served as the Chair of the Area 7 Civil Rights Committee and as a representative on the state Civil Rights Committee. Mark successfully led the All Cultural Appreciation Day July 2005 with team partners in Owatonna. Mark has worked to make his summer staff feel at home and get involved with community activities.

Group/Team MN NRCS Civil Rights Award FY 2005

Southwest Women's Day Committee is the awarded the MN NRCS Civil Rights Group/Team Award FY 2005. Since 2002 this Committee has held workshops and events for women landowners to learn about conservation programs, natural resources and meet agency staff in a comfortable atmosphere. Past workshops include "From Buffers to Butterflies," "Grasses, Groves & Government Pros ~ Clearing the Underbrush from Government Programs," "Where Does Your Water Flow ~ Funneling Resources for a Healthy Watershed," and "What's Blowing in the Wind? Soil and Energy." Annually 70-90 women attend the sessions. Project partners and award winners are:

Marcia Heiling, Redwood SWCD
Mavis Kruisselbrink, Pipestone SWCD
Terry Dybsetter, Lincoln SWCD
Merle Behrens, Lyon SWCD
Sandra Jerzak, USDA NRCS

Shelly Lewis, Murray SWCD
Cheryl Mathias, Cottonwood SWCD
Pauline Van Overbeke, Lincoln SWCD
LouAnn Hagel, Yellow Medicine SWCD

Please join me in congratulating these award winning employees and partners.

//S//

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: AE